

Message Text

PAGE 01 NATO 04000 301539Z

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ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 IO-10 ISO-00 CIAE-00 PM-03 INR-07 L-03 ACDA-05

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FM USMISSION NATO

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 2947

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C O N F I D E N T I A L USNATO 4000

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, NATO, ICRC, PARM

SUBJ: INTERNATIONAL HUMANITARIAN LAW IN ARMED CONFLICT -
PROPOSED NATO CONSULTATIONS

REF: A) STATE 176559; B) USNATO 3903

1. AT JULY 29 POLADS, US REP SAID WASHINGTON IS STILL STUDYING THE ISSUES RAISED BY THE FRG REQUEST FOR A MILITARY COMMITTEE STUDY OF THE MILITARY IMPLICATIONS OF THOSE ARTICLES OF THE FIRST DRAFT SUPPLEMENTARY PROTOCOL TO THE GENEVA CONVENTIONS OF 1949 WHICH DEAL WITH METHODS OF MILITARY COMBAT AND THE PROTECTION OF CIVILIAN POPULATION. US REP ADDED THAT THERE WILL SOON BE BILATERAL TECHNICAL TALKS ABOUT SOME OF THESE ISSUES, AND SUGGESTED THAT A DECISION ABOUT WHETHER TO REQUEST AN MC STUDY MIGHT BE DEFERRED UNTIL THESE TALKS HAVE BEEN COMPLETED.

2. US SUGGESTION WAS ADOPTED BY POLADS, WITH FRG REP SAYING THAT HIS GOVERNMENT WANTS TO RESERVE THE POSSIBILITY THAT THE NATO DISARMAMENT EXPERTS MIGHT DISCUSS THE UTILITY OF A MILITARY COMMITTEE STUDY ON THIS SUBJECT AT THEIR OCTOBER 2-3 MEETING. BRUCE
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PAGE 02 NATO 04000 301539Z

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